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(54) Title: **MODIFICATION OF POLYSACCHARIDE CONTAINING MATERIALS**

(57) Abstract: Compositions for cross-linking and/or modifying the properties of polysaccharide containing materials are provided. Methods for cross-linking polysaccharide containing materials include the step of treating polysaccharide structures with a PBD fusion protein. Properties of polysaccharide containing materials can be functionalized by treatment with PBD fusion proteins comprising a functional moiety. Polysaccharide containing materials such as paper and textiles with increased wet strengths and/or elasticity are described.

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